

2017-2018 Goals of the San Miguel County Open Space Commission

- San Miguel Land Heritage Program – The OSC will continue to facilitate the preservation of important lands in San Miguel County by contributing funds for transactions costs associated with viable conservation easements being closed by certified land trusts.
- Payment for Ecosystem Services -- Assist in development and implementation of PES programs that enhance land health, watershed health, soils health, forest health, and/or provide protection or enhancement of habitat for species of concern to SMC.
- Annual Work Plan Development & Implementation – The OSC will develop an annual work plan and companion budget requests in time for presentation to the BOCC between May and June, so that it can inform the development of the following year's budget during the County's budget process. The OSC will make semi-annual presentations to the BOCC to provide updates to progress being made on each year's work plan.
- Education/Outreach -- The OSC will help keep the public aware and informed and will facilitate public outreach and education on relevant topics, including but not limited to, updates on activities and progress of the OSC on its annual OSC work plan, using a variety of media and strategies such as social media platforms, press releases, radio interviews, guest columns, forums, etc.
- Oil and Gas Leasing and Development – The OSC will monitor oil and gas leasing and development activity within SMC.
- Gunnison Sage-grouse – The Commission will continue to work to protect, preserve and enhance GuSG habitat and to monitor efforts of agencies and other stakeholders working on this effort.
- Implement Planning Dept. Referral Process -- Work with County Staff to explore implementing a process to receive referrals of development and planning applications to the County Planning Department having a nexus to or component that would affect open space, parks, trails, public access, GuSG or county roads (such as a road vacation application) so that OSC can provide timely recommendations or input to the BOCC on such applications as they pertain to the OSC goals or mission.
- Enhancing Recreational Opportunities and Trails -- Partner with existing groups and entities that are working on the regional trail master plan, to determine county priorities and assist in working on opportunities to accomplish securing rights-of- way for trail connectors, and retaining and enhancing access to public lands.
- Collaboration and Crossover with Town of Telluride Open Space Commission – The San Miguel County Open Space Commission will have one member who has dual membership on both the Town and County Open Space Commissions in order to facilitate a working relationship between the groups.